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Message Text

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ACTION ISO-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 /122 W
----------131855Z 055558 /46
R 131427Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7985
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2769

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS: PERSIAN GULF AND RED SEA

REF: STATE 73110

1. ON APRIL 13 WE MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY LEGAL ADVISOR AND LOS EXPERT MOHAMMED MADANI AND ASKED HIM OF REPORTS WE HAD HEARD THAT THE ARAB DELEGATES AT THE RECENT SESSION OF THE ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WERE CONSIDERING A CLOSED SEA APPROACH FOR THE PERSIAN GULF. MADANI SAID THAT HE REGARDED SUCH CONFERENCES AS THAT AT BAGHDAD A WASTE OF TIME. HE HAD HAD MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO AND THEREFORE HADN'T GONE. HE STATED FLATLY, HOWEVER, THAT
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SUCH A CONCEPT FOR THE PERSIAN GULF WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. SAUDI ARABIA WOULD NEVER AGREE AND HE COULD NOT BELIEVE THAT IRAQ WOULD BE INTERESTED. SO FAR AS HE WAS AWARE SUCH A CONCEPT WOULD ALSO RUN CONTRARY TO THE KUWAITI POSITION. (MADANI DISGRESSED AT THIS POINT TO SAY THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD RECENTLY SUCCEEDED IN ARGUING THE KUWAITIS OVER TO STRONGER SUPPORT FOR THE CONCEPT OF FREE PASSAGE.)

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AFTER REITERATING THAT WE NEED HAVE NO CONCERN ABOUT THE ADOPTION OF A CLOSED SEA CONCEPT FOR THE PERSIAN GULF, MADANI THREW OUT THE COMMENT "BUT THE IDEA MIGHT HAVE SOME APPEAL IN THE RED SEA". WE POINTED OUT THAT THE USG AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WOULD AS VIGOROUSLY OPPOSE THE APPLICATION OF THE CONCEPT THERE. MADANI SAID HE UNDER-STOOD THIS AND THAT SAUDI ARABIA SUPPORTED THE CONCEPT OF FREE PASSAGE.

3. ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF THE FORTHCOMING LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, MADANI SAID THAT HE REMAINED PESSIMISTIC BECAUSE OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED AND THE DIVERSITY OF VIEWS TO BE RECONCILED. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD COME AWAY FROM THE CAIRO ARAB STATES LOS MEETING WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THE GROUP OF 77 MIGHT ADOPT MODERATE AND FLEXIBLE POSITIONS. HE SAID THAT THE GROUP OF 77 MEETING IN NEW YORK TO BE HELD BEFORE THE GENERAL SESSION WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT. IF THE HARDLINERS WIN OUT AT THAT MEETING THEN HE SAW LITTLE HOPE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE AS A WHOLE.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, PERSIAN GULF, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 13-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770462/aaaacbys.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 77 STATE 73110
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2823585
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: PERSIAN GULF AND RED SEA
TAGS: PLOS, SA
To: STATE
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vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/695e35a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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